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**Congress of the United States**  
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COMMITTEE

September 10, 2021

Mr. Robert S. Adler  
Acting Chairman  
Consumer Product Safety Commission  
4330 East West Highway  
Bethesda, MD 20814

Dear Acting Chairman Adler:

I write to thank you and your team for working with my office on the important issue of button battery safety. In addition to your thoughtful written response to my April correspondence, you and your team participated in a lengthy discussion about what your Commission is working on in the battery ingestion space. I am grateful for the attention your team has given to this matter and appreciate the opportunity to continue to engage on this issue on behalf of the Hamsmith family in my Congressional District.

Your team shared with me CPSC's efforts to prevent ingestion of coin cell batteries by issuing warnings, encouraging child-resistant packaging, working with industry to find innovative ways to protect consumers, and education and outreach to alert consumers about the dangers of button batteries. I would ask that you continue to use all the tools at your disposal to ensure that children do not have access to button batteries – too many families, including the Hamsmiths in Lubbock, have endured unnecessary and unimaginable heartbreak because of accidents with button batteries.

As you and your colleagues explained, CPSC is currently working on voluntary standards for button batteries. The Commission will then make a determination on whether or not these voluntary standards are adequate. If the Commission decides the voluntary standards are not being adhered to or are not making enough of an impact, CPSC will begin to develop mandatory standards.

While I appreciate CPSC's autonomy and respect the processes in place, this issue is about children and keeping them safe. Chairman Adler, you yourself said that children are "involuntary risk takers," and I believe the sensitive nature of child safety is cause for an expedited process. I would like to request the Commission immediately begin rulemaking on mandatory standards for button batteries. The danger of these products to children is well known and there should be no delay in developing mandatory standards. The potential lapse in time between determining the

need for mandatory standards and developing mandatory standards is concerning to me – justice delayed is justice denied, and I believe there is no cause more just than protecting our children.

I would also like be kept apprised of data surrounding the efficacy of the voluntary safety standards for button batteries and any activity on button batteries.

Again, thank you for your continued attention to this matter. I know that you and your team share my commitment to keeping our children, families, and communities safe and healthy. I look forward to working with you on this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J. Arrington', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jodey C. Arrington  
MEMBER OF CONGRESS